FEB 2 7 2006

PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Application Number 10/657,411 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 09/08/2003 FORM First Named Inventor Dieter Mauer et al. (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Art Unit 3726 **Examiner Name** David P. Bryant Total Number of Pages in This Submission Attorney Docket Number 0275M-000768 ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to Fee Transmittal Form ☐ Drawing(s) Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Licensing-related Papers Appeals and Interferences Petition Appeal Communication to TC Amendment / Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Terminal Disclaimer Other Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request (please identify below): Comments on Statement of Request for Refund Reasons for Allowance; Fee(s) Express Abandonment Request Transmittal (PTOL-85 - in CD, Number of CD(s) duplicate); and postcard. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Reg. No. Firm Attorney Name Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. Christopher M. Brock 27313 Individual name Signature Date February 28, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name Christopher M. Brock Express Mail Label No. EV 717 343 851 US (2/28/2006)

Signature Date February 28, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PATENT



MAN Application No.:

10/657,411

Notice of Allowance Dated

11/30/2005

Filing Date:

FEB 2 7 2006

09/08/2003

Applicants:

Dieter Mauer et al.

Group Art Unit:

3726

Examiner:

Bryant, David P.

Title:

Self-Piercing Rivet, Process And Device For Setting A

Rivet Element, And Employment Thereof

Attorney Docket:

0275M-000768

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicants gratefully note the allowance of Claims 2-7, 9-16, 21-40, 53-57, 61-63 and 77-82 in the present application. While Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, Applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides solely in the identified feature or combination of features, exactly as expressed by the Examiner, or that the feature or combination of features identified is required for patentability, or that equivalents of any of the recited features are outside the scope of the claims. Moreover, to the extent the Reasons for Allowance do not separately address the

subject matter of each claim, Applicants do not acquiesce to any inference that any one claim does not present patentable subject matter independent of any other claim.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 28, 2006

Christopher M. Brock Reg. No. 27313

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1600

CMB:bg